

Message Text

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ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ORM-02 VO-03 CIAE-00 FBIE-00

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4082

UNCLAS GENEVA 9760

FOR D/HA WILSON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ICEM

SUBJ: ICEM'S SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR RESETTLEMENT OF CHILEAN AND
OTHER REFUGEES IN LATIN AMERICA

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETER FROM ICEM DIRECTOR
JOHN F. THOMAS TO COORDINATOR FOR HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS
JAMES M. WILSON: QUOTE

DEAR MR. WILSON,

I HAVE THE HONOUR TO BRING TO YOUR ATTENTION A
PROBLEM FIRST RAISED IN MY LETTER OF 14 JULY. THE ANNOUNCEMENT
WAS MOST GRATIFYING WHICH YOU MADE AT THE 40TH SESSION OF THE ICEM
COUNCIL OF A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION OF DOLS 500,000 FROM THE US GOVT
FOR ICEM'S SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR THE RESETLTLEMENT TO THIRD
COUNTIRES OF CHILEAN AND OTHER REFUGEES IN LATIN AMERICA.
EVEN MORE SIGNIFICANT BECAUSE OF THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL RESETTLEMNT
OPPORTUNITIES MENTIONED IN MY LETTER OF 14 JULY AND REITERATED
AN ICEM DOCUMENT MC/INF/167 WAS YOUR STATEMENT THAT THE PAROLE
PROGRAMME FOR ADMISSIONS TO USA FROM CHILE AND PERU WAS
EXTENDED FOR AN ADDITIONAL 200 FAMILIES WHICH WOULD ALSO NOW
INCLUDE CASES EX ARGENTINA.

AS I UNDERSTOOD MATTERS FROM DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON
BEFORE THE ICEM COUNCIL SESSION, THIS NEW QUOTA OF 200 WOULD BE
EVENLY DIVIDED BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND CHILE. APPARENTLY THE
US EMBASSY IN SANTIAGO WAS UNDER THE SAME IMPRESSION AND THE ICEM
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OFFICE THERE SUBMITTED 302 NEW CASES BY 26 NOVEMBER ASSUMING

THAT FROM THESE 100 WOULD BE SELECTED. IT IS THEREFORE A
MATTER OF GRAVE CONCERN THAT ON 29 NOVEMBER WHEN A DELEGATION
OF STATE DEPARTMENT AND INS OFFICIALS VISITED SANTIAGO IT WAS
STATED THE NEW 200 QUOTA WAS PRACTICALLY EARMARKED FOR ARGENTINA,
AND ONLY 20 OR 25 CASES WOULD BE ACCEPTED FOR CHILE.

ALTHOUGH IN NO WAY WISHING TO DETRACT FROM THE NEED FOR
RESETTLEMENT OPPORTUNITIES FROM ARGENTINA, I WOULD BE MOST
GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD GIVE FURTHER CONSIDERATION TO THE ALLOCATION
OF THE NEW 200 QUOTA . AS STRESSED IN DOCUMENT MC/INF/167 THERE
REMAINS A REQUIREMENT FOR RESETTLEMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR 1,000
PRISONERS IN CHILE.

SINCERELY YOURS.
JOHN F. THOMAS
DIRECTOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL
COMMITTEE FOR EUROPEAN
MIGRATION. UNQUOTE CATTO

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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